

status of trade with the countries of these regions during the period of April—Oct. 2000-2001 is given in the enclosed statement.

STATEMENT

*The status of trade during the period April—October 2000-2001*

Region	Exports	Percentage growth of Exports as compared to the corresponding period of 1999-2000	Imports	Figure in
				(US \$ Million)
				Percentage growth/decrease of Imports as compared to the corresponding period of 1999-2000
Asia and Oceania	9079.56	19.66	8387.06	—30.70
Africa	1308.87	17.05	1656.90	—51.75
South America	329.83	40.08	377.49	—26.27

**Financial Assistance for special projects to Rajasthan**

†564. DR. MAHESH CHANDRA SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the amount provided by Ministry of Commerce and Industry to the State Government of Rajasthan as a grant during the financial years 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 alongwith details of items programme or project and for any special head under which the same has been given; and

(b) whether the State Government of Rajasthan has timely provided the expenditure account to the Centre?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN): (a) and (b) The amount provided by Ministry of Commerce and Industry to the State Government of Rajasthan as a grant during the financial years of

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

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1999-2000 and 2000-2001 and the position relating to expenditure account is as under:

(Rs. in lakh)				
Name of Scheme	Central Grants			
	Released			
	1999-2000	2000-2001		
1. Critical Infrastructure Balance Scheme.	Nil	34.00	The expenditure details have not been received so far.	
2. For salt industry and Labour Development Schemes.	2.96	4.36	Expenditure details received.	
TOTAL	2.96	38.36		

#### Reconstitution of Hindi Salahakar Samiti

565. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) when Hindi Salahakar Samiti was re-constituted in the Ministry;

(b) the number of sittings of the Samiti held during the last three years, year-wise; and

(c) the efforts made to conduct meetings regularly?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) to (c) The Hindi Salahakar Samiti of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Deptt. of Commerce, Deptt. of Industrial Policy and Promotion) were reconstituted on 23.4.1999 and 31.8.2000 respectively. First Meeting of Hindi Salahakar Samiti of Deptt. of Commerce was convened on 17.2.2000 and next meeting is scheduled for 15.3.2001, so far as meeting of Hindi Salahakar